

## The Great Physician

### Luke 22:28-53

- The Disciples after hearing that the Lord would be betrayed that night, and having just been served by the King of Kings, as He washed their feet, still could not help to show their selfish attitudes as they argued among themselves which of them was the greatest. This was not the first time that they had spoken on this subject of who was the greatest > **Mk 9:33-37**.
- Maybe the argument stemmed over who would betray Jesus, or how they were seated at the table, it didn't matter how it got started what mattered is the answer that Jesus gave them. Explaining that they were still thinking like the unsaved Gentiles and not like God's children, for He taught them that they are to follow His example and commit themselves to being servants, and true servants don't argue over who is the greatest because he knows that he is the least, and if we all have this attitude there is no reason for us to compete with one another.

### V28-53

- **V28-30** Jesus closes His lesson on servanthood by reminding the disciples of their future reward, in spite of their weaknesses and failures, the Disciples had stood by Jesus in His earthly ministry, and God would honor them for their faithfulness. Telling them that for their sacrifices today they will be richly rewarded in the future, sitting upon thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.
- This is the story for all Christians, as our faithful service today is preparing us for the rewards we shall receive tomorrow when we stand with our Lord in glory, but Jesus set the example: First the cross, then the crown Amen! **V31-34** next Jesus warns Peter of his coming fall in the form of a denial, I find it interesting that this comes on the heels of the disciples dispute over who was the greatest. Can you imagine how the rest of the disciples felt hearing that not only would one of them betray Jesus, but that their spokesman and leader would publicly deny Him as well!
- Unfortunately all Peter heard was failure, and the man who had been renamed from Simon to Peter > "Rock", reverts right back to Simon the natural man and boastfully says whatever the cost to follow Jesus he is willing to pay it. In **Mk 14:27-31** it gives a little more detail telling us that Jesus told all the disciples that they would fail Him and Peter speaks up saying "**they may run, hide, deny, but not I**", he's so in the flesh that he doesn't even notice that Jesus is back calling him "**Simon**" the old man, for his display of having confidence in his flesh.
- What Peter should have focused on wasn't the **failure** but the **recovery, the restoration, the restoring**. You see Peter was a brave man, but bravery can only take us so far, and Peter's courage eventually failed him, but notice, not his faith; and just as the Disciples would be with Jesus during His trials, He would not forsake them in their trials. Satan is asking for Peter by name desiring to sift him as wheat, translation: to grind him into powder that a gentle breeze can then carry him away, that is what the enemy of our souls wants to do to us all.

- Jesus prayed for him, and even in his failure there will be hope because our Lord will never leave us or forsake us. **V35-38** Jesus now tells them when in ministry one must be flexible, and sometimes there is a financial and material cost so be prepared, I love V38, it shows we cannot do this on our own, we need the Holy Spirit directing us, because we'll over do it.
- **V39-42** a day before the crucifixion Jesus goes to a place that was very familiar the garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives, as He traveled there John 18 says He crossed over the Kidron Brook from which the blood of the Temple sacrifices would flow down into. Also this is the place in which David fled from his son Absalom as he was accompanied only by his closest friends having been rejected by his people, just as we see Jesus. Finally "**Kidron**" means dark, murky, and "**Gethsemane**" means olive press, surely these definitions are significant.
- As we see this is a lonely time for the Lord even though He is accompanied by the Disciples, although Jesus knew the will of the Father there was still an agony of being separated from the Father as He takes on His wrath and judgment for our sins. For cup in the **OT** is a powerful picture of the wrath and judgment of God > **Ps 75:8, Is 51:17, Jer 25:15**.
- **V43-44** although the Father didn't take the cup from Jesus He did send angelic messengers to help strengthen Him, and Jesus prayed even more earnestly. His perspiration was so profuse that tiny blood vessels ruptured in his sweat glands and produced a mixture of sweat and blood called "**hematidrosis**" where under great emotional stress this can happen.
- **V45-46 Mk 14:33-42** three times Jesus left to pray and each time the Disciples fell asleep, they were saddened and confused by what he said, but instead of praying they were sleeping, so Jesus warns them to "rise and pray, lest they enter into temptation". Many temptations could have been avoided if we spend more time praying and lest time doing anything else.
- **V47-48** as we can see not all kisses born out of a loving heart, these are hypocritical kisses, as this wasn't the warm customary kiss of a friend but a kiss to properly identify Jesus to the authorities who came to arrest Jesus. The Lord asks Judas are you this cold and callous that you'd feign affection in an attempt to deceive Me?
- **V49-51** the Disciples didn't know what to do when they realized what was happening so in an attempt to save Jesus Peter gets a sword or pulls it out and cuts off the servant of the High Priests right ear. Its interesting that when Peter used sword power he could only cut off ears, but when he started using the Word of God, he then began to pierce hearts > **Acts 2:37**.
- The Lord could have left the High Priests servant in a lot of pain and agony but even those who meant the Lord harm He healed, He truly is a Savior of compassion. **V52-53 Jn 18:4-6** Jesus asked hem who do they seek and they answered Jesus of Nazareth, and he answered "**I Am He**" then all those who had come out armed and ready to arrest Jesus by force fell back to the ground. After seeing a healing of a severed ear, and a whole troop of guards fall to the ground one would think that you would examine the situation and see that you may be on the wrong side of things.